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nounced form: *Osmunda regalis*, *O. Claytoniana*, *O. cinnamomea*; *Lygodium palmatum*; *Struthiopteris Germanica*; *Onoclea sensibilis*; *Botrychium dissectum*; *Ophioglossum vulgatum*—the last very marked; and in *Woodwardia angustifolia* to a considerable degree. If one is worthy of a name all are, but it would be much better to throw all out of the list of "varieties" and so save confusion.

Salem, Mass.

JOHN ROBINSON.

§ 80. *Rhus Toxicodendron*, L.—On page 47, Vol. VI, of our BULLETIN it is said: "Rhus Toxicodendron seems to prefer the Red Cedar, Locust, and Cherry, and to shun the Pine. Can any one gives us an account of its proclivities to other trees?" I have known this Poison Vine for years persistently climbing a Persimmon tree in the parsonage yard of the Reformed Church, at Keyport, N. J. I have for several years watched the habit of this vine among some Red Cedars, and trees of the *Amelanchier Canadensis*; invariably the Poison Vine avoided the latter, and clung to the former, even though two old trees, one of each species, so crowded each other, that there was not more than 12 inches between them.

SAMUEL LOCKWOOD.

§ 82. Publications.—1. *Botanical Bulletin*, Nov. 1875; Vol. I., No. 1. John M. Coulter, Hanover, Indiana. We have here the first number of a new botanical monthly after the model of our own. The four pages are handsomely printed, and contain interesting notes on *Gentiana quinqueflora*, Lam., *Quercus near Hanover, Ind.*, *Aster Nova-Anglicæ, L.*, *Certain species of the genus, Asplenium*, and a *List of plants collected in the Black Hills during the summer of 1874*. The price is the same as for our Bulletin. We wish the name had been different to avoid confusion. The editor remarks: "The New England States and New York are well supplied with such means of communication, but we do not doubt that there are many interesting finds and notes west of those States that are only waiting some such opportunity as this to be presented to the botanical world." So far as this implies that the BULLETIN OF THE TORREY BOTANICAL CLUB is not open to any communication of botanical interest from my part of the country, as far as its space allows, it is a misapprehension. The 2d and 3d Nos. keep well the promise of the 1st.—2. *The Black Spruce*, by Charles H. Peck, A. M., read before the Albany Institute, May 4th, 1875. A full and well written account of this useful and magnificent forest-tree, its varieties and the vegetable and the insect parasites that injure it, by the able botanist of the State of New York. This is the tree on which *Arceuthobium* grows. "The remarkable fact about this parasite is that thus far it has been detected on those spruces only which grow in swamps or on or around sphagnous marshes." This is a stunted form. "It has not yet been seen on the typical forest spruce." "The *Arceuthobium* is now known to occur in five counties of the State."—3. *Existe-t-il dans la Végétation actuelle des Caractères généraux et distinctifs qui permettraient de la reconnaître en tous Pays si elle devenait fossile?* A. DeCandolle. Arch. des Sci. de la Bibl. Univ., Dec. 1875. In this article, the confusion in the two

senses of the word *Epoch*, astronomical and geological, is pointed out, the former being necessarily contemporaneous but the latter not; the epoch of Compositæ, for example, in South America not being simultaneous with a similar development in Southern Asia.

—4. *Sur les causes de l'inégale distribution des plantes rares dans la chaîne des Alpes*, by A. De Candolle, Florence, 1875. The general conclusion at which the author arrives is that: "The valleys and the groups of mountains which present the greatest number of rare species and the most varied flora belong to the districts in which the snow and the glaciers have had the shortest duration. On the other hand the districts poor in their flora are those in which the influence of the snows and of the glaciers has been the most prolonged."

—5. *Botanical contributions*, by Asa Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. Arts and Sci. Vol. XI., issued Jan. 5th, 1876, "relating mainly to Californian botany, the writer having been engaged in the preparation of the *Gamopetalæ* for Professor Brewer's Botany of California now printing." But the first note has reference to two plants of the Atlantic United States which have long been confounded, viz., *Sedum pusillum*, Michx., and *Dimorpha pusilla*, Nutt., both found on Stone Mt., Geo. *Palmerella* is a new genus of Lobeliaceæ, differing particularly in the adnation of its stamens. We can only refer to other new genera and species discovered particularly by Dr. Palmer and in Gaudalupe Island, off Lower California. There is a conspectus of the American species of *Specularia*, and also of *Mimulus* and *Collinsia*. It seems that that our four species of *Specularia* "may be well distinguished from the European, and into two sections, by taking account of the cleistogamous flowers, which are regularly produced in our species, and not in those of the Old World."—6.

The American Naturalist, Jan. and Feb. If any naturalist was dissatisfied with this excellent publication before, certainly in its present more enlarged form and more general information it should be a welcome visitor to every intelligent household. The botanist will find much gratification in Dr. Gray's "Burs in the Borage Family" and in the General Notes.—7. In the *American Agriculturist* for 1876, Dr. Gray contributes a series of articles, with illustrations, showing how flowers are (or may be) fertilized. Many matters formerly obscure are here cleared up.—8. In the *American Journal of Science and Arts*, see, in particular, the notice, in the Feb. No., of "Naudin on the Nature of Heredity and Variability in Plants."

—9. *Field and Forest* for Dec., 1875, contains a study of the Tulip-tree by Robert Ridgway.—10. *Proceedings of the Poughkeepsie Society of Nat. Sci.* Vol. I., fasc. 1., contains a paper by W. R. Gerard on White Mildews or Blights, illustrated.—11. First Annual Report of the Chicago Botanical Garden.—12. *American Journal of Microscopy*, Vol. I., No. 2, Jan. 1876, McAllister, 49 Nassau St., N. Y.

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The Club meets regularly the last Tuesday of the month in the Herbarium, Columbia College, at 7½ P. M. Botanists are invited to attend. DR. THURBER, the President of the Club, may be found at 245 Broadway.